INCLUDED SUPPLIES

- Miniature Marshmallows
- Toothpicks

BACKGROUND

With permission, watch a video about the Henry Doorly Zoo Geodesic Dome in Omaha, Nebraska online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_r196eP8T8. Or, look at the photo of the dome on the cover.

A geodesic dome is a spherical (three-dimensional round) structure made from connected triangles. Geodesic domes can withstand heavy loads for their size.

The Desert Dome at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, Neb. is an example of a geodesic dome. You may also have seen geodesic domes as climbing domes at a local playground.

DO REFLECT APPLY

Wash your hands.

Make a circle of five toothpicks connected with marshmallows. Add two more toothpicks to each marshmallow to make triangles pointed upwards. Continue to add toothpicks to make your triangles into a dome. Does your structure seem strong for being made out of toothpicks and marshmallows?

How many triangles are in your geodesic dome?

Can you try different shapes with your toothpicks and marshmallows and make other structures?

Have you seen any geodesic dome structures in person?

LEARN MORE

Project areas are topics that 4-H members can learn about on their own, with a friend, at a club meeting, or at 4-H events. To learn more about the project areas you can explore in 4-H, please use our free resources online at https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15266

To get involved with 4-H in Cherokee County, please contact Debbie, Cherokee County 4-H Youth Coordinator, for more information.

ISU Extension & Outreach Cherokee County
deperp@iastate.edu / 712-225-6196

Photo used with permission.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.